

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:489
ANSWERED ON:29.04.2002
FARMERS AGRO SERVICE CENTRES
BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of farmers Agro Service Centres which have been established in the country so far particularly in Orissa, Chattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal, State-wise;
- (b) the functions of these Centres; and
- (c) the details of assessment of their performance so far in Physical and Financial Terms?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH)

(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 489 DUE FOR REPLY ON 29TH APRIL, 2002.

(a) to (c): At present, the Central Government do not have any scheme relating to establishment of Farmers Agro Service Centres. However, some of the State Governments have established such centres. The details of Farmers Agro Service Centres established by the State Governments of Orissa, Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal are given in the Annexure.

Some of the important functions of the Farmers Agro Service Centres relate to distribution of agricultural implements, machinery, seeds, fertilizers and pesticides, providing technical information/services to the farmers, installation and distribution of drip and sprinkler irrigation equipment, providing custom hiring, repair and maintenance services for agricultural equipment for the benefit of the farmers.

State Government of Orissa has informed that a study has been commissioned for assessing the impact of various agricultural enterprises, including Farmers Agro Service Centres, which have been promoted by them. The study Report is awaited.

As regards Chhattisgarh and West Bengal, no study has been carried out since there is no Farmers Agro Service Centre in these States. State Government of Andhra Pradesh have not carried out any formal study to assess the performance of the Farmers Agro Service Centres. However, their turn over has been reported at about Rs.192.00 lakh against a target of Rs.205.92 lakh during the period between April and October 2001. Since the Farmers Agro Service Centres are being assisted by the State Governments, the primary responsibility for making an assessment of their performance in physical and financial terms vests with the respective State Governments.

Annexure

Number of Farmers Agro Service Centres

S.No. Name of State No. of Agro Service Centres

- 1 Orissa 243
- 2 Chhattisgarh Nil
- 3 Andhra Pradesh 21
- 4 West Bengal Nil